

My strange encounter with a wild pig

Listen to Jannie talking about an unusual visit from a wild animal.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. like
2. comfy
3. suddenly
4. to mess around
5. a boar
6. piggy
7. weird
8. to pat

Definition

- a. a male pig
- b. strange
- c. comfortable
- d. quickly and unexpectedly
- e. pig (word used mostly by children)
- f. to touch something lightly with a flat hand
- g. to spend time doing things that are not important
- h. (used in informal speaking to report what someone says or thinks)

Tasks

Task 1

Write a number (1–5) to put the events in the order they are mentioned.

_____ The pig tried to get through the window.

_____ The pig went 'upstairs'.

_____ The children got excited and started calling the pig names.

_____ The children started singing.

_____ The teaching assistant screamed.

Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. in Hong Kong I've working for nearly two years. been
2. strange thing a very Last here. Sunday I saw
3. usual. started the lesson as We
4. on?' 'What?! going like, were We What's
5. wild pig! And a real so and saw the classroom we left
6. in the city believe I a wild pig centre. couldn't there was
7. were to see the pig. the children very excited all So
8. about ten around for messed and then minutes it walked away.
We

Discussion

Have you ever seen a wild animal in a city centre?

Transcript

I want to talk about something I saw in the British Council that is very weird to me.

My name is Jannie. I've been working in the British Council Hong Kong for nearly two years. This is a comfy place to work because it's very modern, the building, it's clean and we've got sunshine from outside the window. And surrounding us there are different international, big hotels and they are like Shangri-la, Conrad. And it's like a business area here, an ordinary office area.

Last Sunday I saw a very strange thing here. We were having lesson with the children – they are four years old and we were in a very big classroom. And because it's very big, so we separated it into two areas. That means we have got two classes there, two teachers and two different groups of children.

We started to have the lesson as usual, singing, playing and asking them if they are well that day. And suddenly the teaching assistant from next door came into my classroom and screamed, saying that 'There is a pig! There is a pig!' The teacher looked at me and I looked at the teacher – we were like, 'What? What's going on?' And then so we left the classroom, we went into the next classroom and then we saw a real pig! It's a wild pig, we believe, and it's very big. It is black in colour and I can't believe I could see a pig in – outside the British Council, in such a business centre in Admiralty here.

So all the children were very excited to look at the pig and we were so close with (to) the pig, and it's like the pig was just outside the window, in the garden outside, and we were behind the window inside the classroom. And because of the children, they were so excited and they were screaming and patting the window and screamed 'Piggy, piggy, piggy!' And then we were like, I think we did something that made the pig excited as well. It started to use its very flat big nose to hit the window. It's like trying to enter the classroom, to have lesson with us. And we messed around for about ten minutes and then maybe the pig started to feel bored and so it left the window, walked away. And another strange thing is the pig walked upstairs to another garden because the garden outside is separated into two different areas, downstairs and upstairs. So it walked upstairs. And it's very strange to me!

So after the pig left us, we went back to our classroom and then we had our lesson again, but it's like we all can't calm down and we were thinking about the piggy, the piggy and the children were screaming 'piggy, piggy' and then, it was a very interesting day.

Answers

Preparation task

1. h
2. c
3. d
4. g
5. a
6. e
7. b
8. f

Task 1

- 4 The pig tried to get through the window.
- 5 The pig went 'upstairs'.
- 3 The children got excited and started calling the pig names.
- 1 The children started singing.
- 2 The teaching assistant screamed.

Task 2

1. I've been working in Hong Kong for nearly two years.
2. Last Sunday I saw a very strange thing here.
3. We started the lesson as usual.
4. We were like, 'What?! What's going on?'
5. And so we left the classroom and saw a real wild pig!
6. I couldn't believe there was a wild pig in the city centre.
7. So all the children were very excited to see the pig.
8. We messed around for about ten minutes and then it walked away.